

“YOU COULD SAY IT WAS IN MY BLOOD!”



“ By the time I was 14 I'd already decided to go into the Motor Industry. My father, grandfather and numerous members of my family have all had lifetime careers in the Motor Industry, so you could say it was in my blood! At the age of 15 I did my work experience with a company called Carlisle Commercials, which further confirmed my decision to take this career route, and ultimately drove me to achieve the required GCSE grades, which were needed to get onto the Volvo Apprenticeship Scheme.

Carlisle Commercials, which is now called Volvo Truck and Bus Centre North, agreed to put me through the Apprenticeship scheme and this meant I studied at Stephenson College for two weeks out of every six. I preferred to study this way because it enabled me to focus on developing my product knowledge for two solid weeks, rather than being on a one-day release scheme – where you only get one day a week to learn.

After graduating from the Volvo Apprenticeship Scheme I agreed with my employer to go onto further education and study for a HNC qualification which entailed a further two years of college work, but at the same time I was offered a new role of Training Advisor in the Technical Training Centre at the Volvo Headquarters in Warwick.

In 2005 I was successful in getting the position of Development Trainer for Truck Sales, which meant I was responsible for developing the sales network with product information and managing other key areas of skills. In 2006 I was promoted to the new role of Commercial Training Advisor which encompassed development for the Aftermarket Business. Towards the end of 2006 I applied for and was successful in getting my current role of Workshop Development Manager which involves developing the workshops with new ways of working, and advising best ways to achieve 95% utilisation and efficiency of 105%. ”

ANDY MASON

Workshop Development Manager
Volvo Truck and Bus Limited, Warwick

“AND I'M STILL ENJOYING EVERY MOMENT!”



“ Growing up I used to have a great time going out with my dad on breakdown jobs when he worked for Duffields of Norwich. So when the time came for me to leave school, I had some great memories to look back on. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do exactly, only that I wanted it to be interesting and challenging, so I applied for a job at Dawson Freight Commercials in Milton Keynes and quickly afterwards progressed onto their Volvo Apprenticeship Scheme.

The two years I spent on the programme flew by, and on graduating I took on the role of service receptionist part time when required, I even supervised the workshop from time to time. Not long after this I was promoted onto the “call out” team, which meant I was responsible for being on call and for looking after my own van and equipment.

Then in September 2003 I was offered the opportunity to work at Volvo Headquarters in Warwick in the Product Quality department as a Product Quality Engineer looking after transmission, suspension and steering on all Volvo Truck products, in addition to working on the helpdesk to support our dealer network. I am now one of the main support contacts for our dealer network, throughout UK and Ireland, and I'm still enjoying every moment! ”

KARL EVANS

Product Quality Engineer
Volvo Truck and Bus Limited, Warwick